SISTERS' DEPARTMENT.

From One Earnest Worker.

TOO GOOD TO KEEP.

Aug. 22, 1888.—"If we can once get them to make a beginning, the work will be easier afterwards. Sister Minnie is very timid, though interested in any good work. When we came home from St. James, after having organized, I told Minnie that I wanted her to read an essay at our first meeting. She said 'O Laura, I can't, I know I can't, I would be scared to death.' But I said, 'Minnie you *must*, we must take up the cross and it will become lighter after awhile.' She said, 'well, I'll try, but I know I'll be dreadfully scared.' She did try, and though her voice trembled, she read very well. At our second meeting, her voice again trembled, but at the third, she read as though she had been long accustomed to public work; and she said she did not feel the least bit nervous. Such would be the experience of many others, if they would but take the first step. And so it would be in making public prayers. I hope great things from the S. S. C. E. We call ourselves Progressives, and if we would keep pace with our name, we must be up and doing; and when we look around us, and see the spiritual needs of many people at our very doors, and enlarging our range of vision, we get a glimpse into the wretched homes of filth squalor and ignorance of our colored people of the South, and our Indians on the West, surely we ought to be stimulated to greater exertions in the Master's cause. I think a lack of interest in the work is in nearly every case a lack of knowledge of the need of workers. Surely no true Christian can fold his hands, and close his heart and purse against the calls for help from every direction, if he has heard the call and has a knowledge of the real need that forced the cry from benighted souls. When I think of the great work being done by Presbyterian and Methodist women I am conscious, painfully conscious, that we have as yet done very little, but I comfort myself with the thought that we are yet in our infancy as a church organization, and perhaps when our church numbers as many years as theirs we, too, can look with Christian pride upon the work we have accomplished for the Master."

Sept. 3, 1888.—"I have always thought that I should feel life to be a success if, when 'I pass over,' some one shall be better because I have lived. There is so much of sin in the world, and there is so much of misery that we might alleviate if we made greater efforts and more sacrifices. God help us to do it. Oh! when I look around me and see the abundant harvest to be reaped, and the few busy reapers; when I see how much there is to be done, and how little we are doing, I am appalled. There is one thing so greatly needed in all churches, and especially do we need it in our beloved brotherhood, and that is, that thorough consecration of the heart to Christ which opens the pocket book. We as a church organization are yet in our infancy, and comparatively weak financially; and yet I think we have sufficent wealth to do twice as much as we are doing, if we were willing to sacrifice some of our luxuries and even some of our comforts for Christ's sake. We ought to be doing more work in the home mission field, and we ought to have workers in the foreign field. Our people are not yet educated to give liberally. A few bear the burden of church expenses. What a work we might do for Christ, if we cared less for self-gratification!"

Oct. 15, 1888.—"The church today cannot do without woman's work, for she is proving herself a factor, and not a cipher, in the conversion of the world. And woman is destined to do even greater things than she has done; for people's eyes are being opened to the fact she is both able and willing to work, and her efforts are being crowned with success. I was reading 'Woman's Home Missions' this morning. Each number makes me feel more and more that we, too, as a church, ought to be establishing missions on the frontier. We, too, ought to have our industrial schools, our homes, etc., in the South and West. How shall we inspire the hearts of our people to consecrate themselves and their means to the work? Who is ready to say, 'here am I, send me?' or who will say, 'all that I have is the Lord's, and it shall be used to his glory.' Yes, God grant that the time may be near when the Brethren church may stand up proudly by the side of other churches, and her equality be recognized. I am proud of the progress we are making, but I am impatient. May our Father rouse us all from our lethargy and inspire in us a greater zeal for his cause."

Oct. 26, 1888.—I am losing none of my interest in the S. S. C. E., and hope to grow more and more interested in it. I feel that it has grand possibilities before it. It is yet in its infancy, and we must not expect it to accomplish great things at once. It needs a few earnest, alive, faithful and consecrated hearts to push it until others catch the spirit from those few. To aspire to make the world better is a desire born of God, and always ennobles and beautifies the soul. To be willing to sacrifice home comforts and friendly associations, and go forth among the ignorant and benighted, is to show the Master's spirit in the human heart. May God bless our sister and give her such strength, wisdom and consecration as is needed for a work her heart yearns now to do. The way will be open after awhile. A better day is coming; a day when the Brethren church will unfurl the gospel alone banner over lands that now know not God. It may be distant, but it is coming, and now is the time to prepare for it. There are hearts among our people great and grand enough for the sacrifices. There are souls to whom the Master is speaking as to his disciples of old,—'Go *ye*.' They hear the voice, and their hearts respond, 'Lord, here am I, what wilt thou have me to do?' My own heart's response is, 'use me, Lord, where it pleaseth thee best.' No effort of ours for Christ's sake will go unrewarded, though perhaps we may not reap in this world the fruit from our sowing. 'We sow on Burmah's arid plains, to reap on Zion's hill.' Praise the Lord! the reaping time will come, and with joy we will present the golden sheaves to our Father."

M. M. STERLING.

Nov. 22, 1888,

The Maryland State Endeavor.

The Branch Societies for Christian Endeavor of Md., met at St. James on Sunday, Dec. 2nd, and effected a State Organization. Mrs. Annie E. Emmert, President of Funkstown branch was chosen State President. Mrs. Mollie Fahrney, President of St. James branch was chosen Treasurer, and the writer, President of Mapleville branch was chosen Secretary.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Society:

WHEREAS, The Branch Societies for Christian Endeavor of the State of Maryland, assembled at St. James, Dec. 2, 1888, effecting a State Organization, and

WHEREAS, The object of this Society is the promotion of Christ's cause; Therefore

1st, *Resolved*, That we, individually bring to this work, earnest purpose, patient, faithful, prayerful effort.

2nd. *Resolved*, That we encourage every sister in the state to become an active member and every brother to become an honorary member of one of the Branches of this Organization.

3rd. *Resolved*, That we make an earnest endeavor to extend the circulation of the EVANGELIST, so that it shall be in the hands of every brother and sister.

4th. *Resolved*, That we exert our utmost endeavors to interest every brother and sister in the State in the cause of missions, and that we solicit our pastor to assist us by preaching a missionary sermon at least once a year at each church of his charge.

We are very much encouraged in our work. The sisters are coming grandly to the front, and the brethren are standing nobly by them. We have succeeded better even than we had dared to hope. Our Father knows our weakness and he graciously strengthens us. We have but three organized churches in Md., all under one pastorate, but we have three branches of the S. S C. E., and a State organization. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

We were made to feel very sad on Sunday, by hearing our pastor, Bro. I. D. Bowman announce his intention of leaving us in a few weeks, and going to Ashland University. Our hearts are full of tearful sadness at the thought of losing our pastor, but knowing how much he will appreciate the advantages he is soon to enjoy, and how he will improve them so that eventually the church will be benefited, we try to rejoice with him. The many tearful faces at St. James on Sunday told better than words can do, the esteem in which Bro. Bowman is held here. He has been an earnest, faithful self-sacrificing worker, and has been the means of adding many to the church. May our Father bless him in his work at College and in the field.

LAURA E. N. GROSSNICKLE.

Mapleville, Md., Dec. 4, '88.

Sister Vinda Snyder, Secretary of the Louisville, Ohio, Endeavor has returned from a protracted visit to Illinois and Indiana.

Sister Bessie Perry, Cor. Secretary, is teaching school near her home, North Manchester, Ind.

Sister M. M. Sterling, the President of the Endeavor, is enthusiastic in the interests of the College.

MARRIED.

BIBLE—GOCHENOUR—At the residence of Zack Clary, Nov. 8, 1888, by Rev. J. L. Kimmel, Mr. Elbert E. Bible and Miss Jane E. Gochenour, all of Clinton county, Ind.

NEAL—BRADLEY—At the residence of the bride's parents, by Elder H. H. Snyder, of the Fennville church, brother Henry Neal, of Pine Grove, Mich., to Miss Eva Bradley, of Manlias, Mich. We all wish our young brother and bride much joy, and may the blessings of our Lord go with them through life and grant them a happy reunion in the world to come.

MRS. JAMES F. CRAFTS.

On Monday, Nov. 5, the Boston Preacher's Meeting discussed the position taken by the National W. C. T. U. in leading its influence as an organization to the Prohibition party. The general sentiment appeared to be in favor of this the only logical and consistent position which an organization with the avowed objects of the W. C. T. U. could assume.

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Constant success shows us but one side of the world; for as it surrounds us with friends, who will tell us onely our merits, so it silences those enemies from whom alone can learn our defects.

The smallness of our gifts need not deter us from giving for the book does not tell us that as many as had plenty gave, but as many as were "willing-hearted," and every one whose heart stired her up, and whose spirit made willing." It is that willing-heartedness we need most of all, that heart stirring that will make us not only willing but anxious to give all that we have and all we are to Him who hath loved us.

W. C. T. U. Notes.

The Local W. C. T. U. of Roseville, N. J., is starting, as an auxiliary, a Junior Prohibition club.

A Temperance Temple has been built in San Diego County, California, at an expense of $6,-000. Saloons within three miles of the building have been prohibited by the City Council.

The National Indian Association, Mrs. A. S. Quinton, President, is auxiliary to the National Council of Women, Miss Frances B. Willard, President. The National W. C. T. U. has also voted to co operate with the National Council.

The Belfast Women's Temperance Association is raising a fund to send one of the Rev. Dr. Magee's colporteurs to Ireland. These colporteurs are not only temperance advocates but Gospel missionaries, who visit remote and neglected settlements bearing the message of Life and teaching total abstinence.

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